

REMARKS

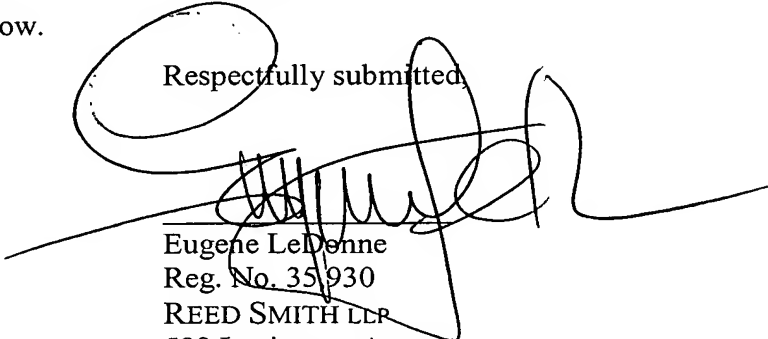
In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant has provisionally elected Group I, claims 1-8, with traverse for prosecution at this time.

The subject matter of claims 1-14 are sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of either Group would encompass a search for the subject matter of the other Group. For example, independent claim 1 of Group I and independent claim 9 both include the common feature of "a surface tension of the ink is not less than 40 mN/m, and an amount of dissolved oxygen in the ink is not more than 4 mg/L". Accordingly, Applicant submits that the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden to the Examiner.

Moreover, the Examiner stated that invention I is a product and invention is related to invention I as a process of use. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Invention II is not a process, but rather a product. The Examiner further states that the process for using the product can be practiced with another materially different product such as an ink composition which does not have a limit of the amount of dissolved oxygen. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In fact, as stated above, all independent claims have the limit of the amount of dissolved oxygen.

Based upon the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its earlier allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorney would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact him at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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